

## Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 SS-20 NSC-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 H-03 DRC-01

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P 110645Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2154

UNCLAS AMMAN 4655

USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: JORDAN MEDIA ON PRESIDENT FORD AND PRESIDENT NIXON RES-  
IGNATION.

1. SUMMARY: JORDANIAN MEDIA HAVE GIVEN MAIN ATTENTION TO BOTH  
NIXON AND FORD. REPORTING IS FACTUAL. EDITORIALS  
EXPRESS HOPE THAT FORD WILL CONTINUE WITH NIXON MIDEAST  
POLICY, THOUGH AT SAME TIME SHOWING SOME DOUBTS AND FEARS.

2. FRONT PAGE HEADLINES IN PRESS AUGUST 10. AD DUSTOUR:  
"FORD COMITS HIMSELF TO WHOLE WORLD TO WORK SERIOUSLY AND  
CONTINUOUSLY FOR SAKE OF PEACE. SOVIETS ARE UNEASY, ARABS  
CAUTIOUS AND ISRAELIS HAPPY". AR RA'I: "KISSINGER STAYS:  
NO CHANGE IN AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY. FULL CONGRESS BACKING  
TO NEW PRESIDENT. PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY APPOINT ROCKEFELLER  
VICE PRESIDENT". AS SABAH: "FORD SAYS "NO CHANGE IN AMERICA'S  
FOREIGN POLICY". KISSINGER RECALLS 59 U.S. AMBASSADORS TO  
INFORM THEM OF THIS." HEADLINES AUGUST 9 NOTED MERELY THAT  
NIXON RESIGNED AND FORD ASSUMED PRESIDENCY. AR RA'I ADDED IN  
SUBHEAD THAT LAIRD EXPECTED TO BE NEW VICE PRESIDENT. ALL  
PAPERS HAVE GIVEN LENGTHY FRONTPAGE COVERAGE FROM NEWS SERVICES  
(PRIMARILY REUTERS) AS WELL AS BACKGROUND ITEMS. INCLUDED IN  
LATTER ARE WRAP-UPS ON WATERGATE, REACTIONS OF WORLD AND  
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ESPECIALLY ARAB PRESS, BIOGRAPHIES OF FORD AND NIXON. AR RA'I

CARRIED FULL TEXT NIXON RESIGNATION SPEECH AND COVERED AT LENGTH BY OTHER PAPERS. MAJOR PORTIONS OF BOTH FORD STATEMENTS CARRIED WITHIN NEWS STORIES. PAPERS HAVE MADE WIDE USE OF SUPPORTING PHOTOS.

3. MANY EDITORIALS AUGUST 10 DREW ATTENTION TO FORD CONTINUING WITH NIXON'S MIDDLE EAST POLICY. AD DUSTOUR WROTE: "ONLY MOMENTS FOLLOWING HIS INAUGURATION AS U.S. PRESIDENT, GERALD FORD PLEDGED TO WORK FOR PEACE IN WORLD ... WE HAVE TO CONSIDER HIS PLEDGE AS HEALTHY SIGN. REGARDLESS OF WHAT IS SAID ABOUT BACKGROUND ON NEW PRESIDENT, IT IS UNWISE TO JUDGE HIM IN ADVANCE...PRESIDENT FORD HAS OPPORTUNITY TO TRANSLATE PLEDGE INTO TANGIBLE REALITY IN THIS AREA. HE HAS CHANCE TO REINFORCE HIS COUNTRY'S POSITION IN MIDDLE EAST THROUGH ACTIVE AND POSITIVE ROLE TO ACHIEVE PEACE THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION RESOLUTION 242."

4. AR RA'I CARRIED THREE EDITORIALS. ON FRONT PAGE THIS PAPER SAID: "WE BELIEVE THAT NEW PRESIDENT WILL FOLLOW IN FOOTSTEPS OF PREDECESSOR TO ESTABLISH PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST...IT IS DIFFICULT TO AGREE WITH OTHERS THAT NIXON'S RESIGNATION MEANS RETRACTION OF U.S. MIDEAST POLICY AND IT IS UNWISE CONNECT BASIC CHANGE IN U.S. POLICY UNDER NIXON WITH PERSON OF NIXON." SECOND EDIT CALLS ON ARABS TO USE THEIR POTENTIAL TO ASSURE THAT NIXON'S CHANGED MIDEAST POLICY DOES NOT CHANGE. THIRD HAS SIMILAR LINE BUT EMPHASIZES NEED FOR ARAB VIGILANCE TO SEE THAT ZIONIST VIEWPOINTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.

5. AS SABAH CREDITS NIXON WITH HAVING SAVED U.S. INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION AND CHARGES THAT HIS OUSTER WAS ZIONIST INSPIRED. "NIXON DID NOT CHANGE U.S. TO BE MORE MODERATE TOWARDS ARABS BECAUSE OF LOVE OF ARABS, BUT BECAUSE OF CONCERN FOR U.S. INTERESTS...DEAL (WITH EGYPT) AROUSED SUPPORTERS OF ISRAEL AND MADE THEM REVIVE CHARGES AGAINST NIXON TO GET RID OF MAN WHO SAVED AMERICA'S REPUTATION AND INTERESTS AND WHO PLACED WELFARE OF U.S. BEFORE THAT OF ISRAEL".

6. AL URDON NOTED THAT "PRESIDENT FORD HAS ANNOUNCED HE WILL FOLLOW POLICY OF PREDECESSOR CONCERNING MIDEAST AND PEACEFUL COEXISTANCE. WE HOPE U.S. EFFORTS WILL

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CONTINUE TO COMPLETE THE ACHIEVEMENTS ALREADY OBTAINED IN MIDEAST."

7. JORDAN TELEVISION PROVIDED VIEWERS WITH FULL COVERAGE INCLUDING ENTIRE FOOTAGE OF NIXON RESIGNATION STATEMENT, FORD SWEARING IN AND STATEMENT AND NIXON'S DEPARTURE FROM WHITE HOUSE WITH ALL HIS REMARKS. THIS TOOK ABOUT 40 MINUTES AND WAS CARRIED ON BOTH ARABIC AND ENGLISH NEWSCASTS,

WHICH EXTENDED FAR BEYOND NORMAL 10 TO 15 MINUTES. ALSO  
JORDAN TV RERAN ENTIRE FOOTAGE OF FORD MEETING WITH HUSSEIN  
IN WASHINGTON. IN ADDITION TO ITS OWN BROADCASTS, JORDAN TV  
SHIPPED COPIES OF THIS COVERAGE TO SYRIAN, LEBANESE AND  
EGYPTIAN STATIONS. JORDAN RADIO COVERAGE WAS LESS FULL THAN  
TELEVISION, BUT NEWSCASTS COVERED ADEQUATELY ALL MAIN POINTS.

8. INITIAL REACTIONS OF JORDANIANS TO NEW PRESIDENT IN SEPTTEL.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, PRESIDENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, WATERGATE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 AUG 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
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**Review Authority:** martinjw  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, JO, US, (NIXON, RICHARD M), (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (FORD, GERALD R),  
**To:** USIA  
**Type:** TE  
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